

# Journal of Commerce

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MONTREAL, SATURDAY, MAY 1, 1915.

## American Neutrality.

A widely published report of a speech alleged to have been made a few days ago by Hon. Arthur Meighen, Solicitor-General of Canada, has been harmful, inasmuch as it has conveyed what we are persuaded is an entirely erroneous impression of Canadian public opinion in relation to the attitude of the American people in the present war. The report represented Mr. Meighen as having offered a severe criticism of President Wilson and the American people who, it was stated, "appeared to care more for party politics and dollars than for the principles of justice, freedom and humanity." Such a criticism from the press or from a private individual might pass with little comment, but coming from a Canadian official, who while not in the Cabinet, is very close to it, it seemed to be a grave indiscretion, such as would not be expected from a gentleman of Mr. Meighen's prominence and acknowledged ability. The Solicitor-General has in general terms denied the accuracy of the report. It appears that the speech was made at a meeting of the Laurentian Club, of Ottawa, and that the report was given out by the president of the club—a prominent citizen of the capital. The president of the club thought the speech so important that he felt the public should have the benefit of it, and therefore he hastened to furnish to the press the report which has been so widely published, and the accuracy of which Mr. Meighen has now denied. It can easily be understood that the club's president, lacking the qualities of the skilled journalist, may have failed to make the report as fair and accurate as he desired it to be. That Mr. Meighen did not use the particular words that were reported must at once be believed, in the light of his denial. But it is not easy to believe that, in the circumstances stated, the president of the club entirely failed to understand what Mr. Meighen said. The impression must therefore remain that Mr. Meighen did make a speech in which he indulged in adverse criticism of the attitude of the American Government and people. That he did not suppose he would be reported does not excuse the indiscretion.

Such criticism from a Canadian official would have been inexpedient even if it had been well founded. But it was not well founded. There does not appear to be any ground upon which to question the good faith of our American neighbors in their efforts to maintain a proper neutrality. We in Canada do not pretend to be either neutral or indifferent in the war. The fight is our own, and every particle of aid that can be given in blood and treasure is being freely offered to uphold the honor of the Empire. But we must not expect neutral nations to feel as we do. That none of the belligerents will be fully satisfied with the proceedings of the American authorities is to be expected. Here and there incidents have occurred in which for the moment our American neighbors may have seemed to give us less consideration than we desired. But this is probably because in our zeal for our own cause we have failed to appreciate the difficulties of their position. The highest duty of the American Government is to endeavor to keep their country out of the conflict, and to this end to maintain an absolute neutrality between the belligerent nations. We have no doubt that much of what Germany has done in this war is as abhorrent to President Wilson as it is to our Canadian people. But as President of the United States, Mr. Wilson is not at liberty to say so. To espouse the cause of either side would be to violate that neutrality which it is his duty to maintain. Adverse criticism of his course from any British source becomes the more regrettable because it occurs at a time when the American authorities are being sharply attacked from the other side, when even the semi-official German press is charging the American Government with giving its support to the British cause.

The position of the American Government in the matter is not an easy one. There is a large German and Austrian population in the United States, including many men of influence, who are at all times endeavoring to win American sympathy for their enemies. A vigorous propaganda for this purpose is being maintained. To resist all influences of this kind, and maintain with fairness the principles of neutrality is no easy task. But the President and his advisors have been able to do this to a degree which, instead of calling for adverse criticism, deserves the sympathy and respect of the British people everywhere. This is fully recognized by the Imperial authorities in London. It should be recognized with no less frankness by the Canadian authorities and people.

## Rural School Problem.

One of the big problems confronting the people of Canada and the United States has to do with the rural schools. Unfortunately for the prosperity and welfare of these two countries, there has been a steady and persistent drift from country to city. While many reasons are given for this exodus from the farms, it is now generally believed that one of the main reasons is the system of education which is carried on in rural schools. The result of the steady drift to the cities and the depopulation of the country makes the lot of the country school increasingly difficult. Apparently there are only two solutions, one being to consolidate the districts and furnish transportation for the pupils, and the other is to increase the grants which will enable them to secure more and better teachers.

In this province two-thirds of the rural teachers receive from \$150 to \$300 a year, while there are still a number receiving less than \$100 a year. The average salary for women teachers in rural Ontario has increased in the past ten years from \$294 to over

\$600, and that of male teachers from \$385 to nearly \$600.

In New York State the Commissioner of Education has issued a report showing that there are 11,642 elementary schools in the State, of which 8,430 are one roomed schools. In almost half of these the average daily attendance for 1913 was ten or less. The Commissioner suggests that as a result of the trend of population to the city and the diminished interest and financial support furnished the rural schools, or else increase the financial remuneration paid to rural teachers.

Undoubtedly this is an important question, and one which should be faced at the earliest possible moment. A teacher cannot get much inspiration from a total attendance of six or ten pupils. This means that there is only one or at the most two in any class. It would be infinitely better to consolidate a half dozen such schools, secure two or three well paid and thoroughly qualified teachers and give the children a real education in keeping with the present day requirements. To bring them together motor busses could be pressed into service, and this again would pre-suppose the creation of good roads—another important development in connection with the rural community. In these consolidated schools agriculture and other subjects of vital interest to the boys and girls from the farming communities should be taught. If this were done we would hear less of the "xodus" to the city. The time to stop the movement from country to city is before it commences, and that can be best done through the medium of the country school.

If we must have a day in which every person moves, let us at least choose a day when we are likely to have good weather. It always rains on May the first. Perhaps June first or February first would be more suitable.

The success of the combined naval and military forces operating along the Dardanelles is most encouraging. At the present rate of progress it will not be long before the allied soldiers are at the gates of Constantinople.

The decision of the New Brunswick Government to make a complete and scientific survey of the seven million acres of Crown Lands in that Province is a wise step to take. In the past there has been far too much of the hit-and-miss method of dealing with our public domain, with the result that many valuable forest areas have been secured by private individuals, who do nothing to develop them.

The use by the Germans of asphyxiating gases is in direct violation of the Hague Convention, to which Germany subscribed. It is, of course, too much to expect that a nation which has murdered and tortured women and children, sunk defenseless merchant ships and violated every clause in the Hague Agreement, to bother about such a small matter as the use of asphyxiating gases.

In January Canada imported goods from the United States valued at \$19,143,000, and from Great Britain goods to the value of \$6,692,000. Our exports to the two countries in question were: to the United States, \$13,280,000, and to the United Kingdom \$12,845,000. Our big neighbor to the south still remains the most important factor in our trade.

In an effort to minimize the losses from fire, the Grand Trunk Pacific has announced that after June they will only use oil burning locomotives on their line between Prince Rupert, B.C., and Jasper, Alta., a distance of seven hundred and eighteen miles. Railroad locomotives have been one of the chief causes of forest fires, and it is encouraging to find a great corporation making an effort to minimize the danger.

Germany has been losing men in killed and wounded since the outbreak of the war at the rate of 300,000 a month. Just what the effect of these heavy losses will have on the industrial and commercial future of the nation is not hard to estimate. The removal of millions of able bodied men from the farm, the factory, the office and store will seriously hamper that nation in her endeavor to regain her former place in the commerce of the world. The probabilities are that the workmen who are left to carry on the industries after the close of the war will demand higher wages, with the result that Germany's former supremacy in the manufacture of cheap goods will become a thing of the past. Another factor which should not be ignored is that Germany will emerge from the war burdened with an enormous debt.

## THE INVOLUNTARY INCENDIARY.

The involuntary incendiary is the man whom all of you know. You see him every day. If you are as fussy as I, you follow him and try where possible to prevent his deadly devastation of life and property. You trample on his half-burned match he throws away; you extinguish his smoldering cigar or cigarette stump; you douse his smoldering bonfire and campfire; you cover with metal his open gasoline and coal-oil can; you chink with mortar the cracks in his defective flues; you drench his smoking ash-heap, as its live coals are about to be fanned into flame. And all the while you denounce him as the fire fiend's fool accessory.—Canadian Forestry Journal.

## The Day's Best Editorial

### "SECOND WIND."

One of the most interesting bits of news in the account of the Willard-Johnson fight was the assertion that after the tenth round both the contestants "got their second wind." That is to say, that after a period of tired, heavy muscular action with labored breathing and evidently slow circulation, both the men found themselves in spite of the strain, easier in every way. They had both manifestly tapped a new layer of energy.

The late Prof. William James used to declare that this phenomenon of the "second wind"—that is, a notable case of effort after a period of increasing difficulty in which it seems the person must give up—occurs in every form of work, mental as well as physical. He added that the trouble with our time was that so many people were living so near the surface of their being that their efforts were never pushed through the first barrier of fatigue to that deeper layer of energy which is so precious a reserve in life.

Physicians are pretty well agreed now that not a little of nervous exhaustion is really due to the failure of men and women to tap their underlying strata of energy. They live their lives superficially on the first layer alone. Perhaps, then, the prize fight may have its precious lesson, even for those who condemn the practice, in this striking demonstration of what genuinely forced effort can accomplish.—New York Herald.

## SATED.

Civilians living in the neighborhood of Xpres are reported as being so sated with war that they don't even look at the airplanes circling above them. It is added, however, as an explanation of apathy, that these civilians are almost daily under shell fire.

When the poet Tennyson "looked into the future far as human eye can see," and prophesied the "nations airy navies grappling in the central blue," nobody took him seriously—nobody pictured a civilian's keeping his eyes on the ground while above his head is enacted such marvel as this:

"Half a dozen aircraft manoeuvred over Xpres all Saturday afternoon. The majority were British, attempting to bring down a German flier who was trying to spot batteries at the rear of the British lines. 'The sky was unflecked anywhere except by the cotton wool flakes of burning shrapnel as anti-aircraft guns sought the flier.'—Southern Lumberman.

## BRING IT OUT.

Sir James Dewar says chlorine gas, which the Germans are using to poison their foes, is thrice as heavy as air, and, therefore drifts along, under compulsion of a breeze, so close to the surface of the earth that no one in its path can escape its fumes. It seems almost time to dig the great Lord Cochrane's secret war plan for the annihilation of Britain's enemies out of the pigeonhole it occupies in the War Office. It was rejected as too inhuman for use, but it cannot be much worse than the German poison bomb.—Toronto Globe.

## "A LITTLE NONSENSE NOW AND THEN"

"Yes, I'm sixty years old."  
"Well, you don't look it."  
"And married forty of those sixty years, too, my boy."  
"My dear chap, you don't look that, either."

A prospective bride wants to know if there is not some wedding march other than Mendelssohn's, and the one from Lohengrin, as she does not like either of them. If that is the case she might approach the altar to the strains of "What Will the Harvest Be?"—New Orleans States.

"What? You're going to marry Tom Speed? Why he's swif!"  
"What makes you think so?"  
"I hear he's been blackballed by every club in town."  
"Yes, I heard so, too. That sort of husband won't have much excuse for staying out nights, will he?"—Cleveland Leader.

It was a club dinner, and Mrs. Anderson, a social climber, was seated next to Mrs. Murridge, a society woman of prominence. Wishing to engage in conversation with the social leader, Mrs. Anderson remarked:

"I understand that you have a son who is studying music, Mrs. Murridge."  
"Yes, my son is a great musician," replied the society leader, rather coldly. "He is now studying in the Paris Conservatory."

"Really! How nice!" replied the social aspirant.  
"It must be so pleasant to be able to sit among flowers all day and not disturb any one with the practicing."—New York Times.

A story is told of a man who returned to his home after many years' absence. The poor fellow had suffered a good deal from indigestion, which had had the unpleasant effect of turning his nose very red. Consequently when he called at the parsonage to pay his respects to the spiritual guide of his youth the old parson looked at him and remarked:

"I'm very much afraid, Brown, that while you've been away you've become a hard drinker."  
"You mustn't judge by appearances, sir," remarked Brown, in a more in sorrow than in anger tone of voice. "I don't drink two glasses of beer a week."  
"In that case, Brown," said the parson, "I should say your face is like my gas meter. It registers much more than it consumes."—Philadelphia Ledger.

Cy Warman, author of the song, "Sweet Marie," who died a few months ago in Chicago, was a high official of the Grand Trunk Railroad; but he was always modest about his post.

Once he stopped overnight at a little hotel in northern Michigan, conducted by a man who had previously run a shooting gallery and later a night lunch car in New York. The host related his own story in length. Then he became interested in the biography of the visitor.

"What do you do up in Montreal, Mr. Warman?"  
"I work for the Grand Trunk," said Warman.  
"What kind of a job have you got—do you sell tickets or handle baggage?"

"Oh, I've got a better job than either of those," said Cy. "You know the man who goes alongside of the train and taps the wheels with a hammer to see that everything's all right? . . . Well, I help him listen."

## HYMN OF HATE.

(Chicago Tribune.)

(With a conventional salutation to Herr Lisenauer.)

Cranberry pie, or apricot—  
We love them not, we hate them not.  
Of all the victuals in pot or plate,  
There's only one that we loathe and hate.  
We love a hundred, we hate but one,  
And that we'll hate till our race is run—  
BREAD PUDDING!

It's known to you all, it's known to you all;  
It casts a gloom, and it casts a pall;  
By what name they mark the mess,  
You take one taste and you give one guess.  
Come, let us stand in the Waiting Place,  
A vow to register, face to face;  
We will never forego our hate;  
Of that tasteless fodder we exorcise—  
BREAD PUDDING!

Cranberry pie, or apricot—  
Some folks like 'em, and some folks not.  
They're not so bad if they're made just right,  
Tho' they don't endkinde our appetite.  
But you we hate with a lasting hate,  
And never will we that hate abate:  
Hate of the tooth and hate of the gum,  
Hate of palate and hate of tum,  
Hate of the millions who've choked it down,  
In kitchen chimney or house in town.  
We love a thousand, we hate but one,  
With a hate more hot than the hate of Hun—  
BREAD PUDDING!

## IN THE LIMELIGHT

A Series of Short Sketches of Prominent Canadians.

Some years ago there was a saying current in Presbyterian circles that Lindsay hired its ministers by the yard. Men of unusual height like Dr. McTavish, of Toronto, Dr. Johnston, of Montreal, and Dr. Macmillan, of Halifax, all greatly in excess of six feet, followed one another as occupants of the Presbyterian Church in Lindsay. To quote the poet who declared that "It is not growing like a tree in bulk, that doth make men better be," is true of the men who filled this pulpit.

The Rev. J. W. Macmillan, B.A., D.D., who has recently been called to the Chair of Practical Theology and Social Ethics in Manitoba College, Winnipeg, is an outstanding figure in the Presbyterian Church in Canada. He is a giant physically and mentally and so constituted that ninety-nine out of every hundred would never dream that he was a minister. Perhaps it is his individuality that is the chief cause of his strength. He is essentially a man's man. Pink teas, ladies' meetings and the social side of life does not appeal to him. As a matter of fact, they are as distasteful to him as golf, curling, the debating forum and the everyday working problems of men are pleasing to him.

Years ago when Dr. Macmillan was a very young man, he attracted men through the virility of his thought. There is a certain ruggedness/ originality, picturesqueness and force, in the man and in his message to men which attracts and holds. He can never be accused of following the beaten track. Possibly in the olden days he would have been burned at the stake for heresy. Even his most ardent admirers—and their name is legion stretching from Vancouver to Halifax—would dream of calling him orthodox. Despite this, it is doubtful if there is a man in Canada who is doing a greater or better work than this man.

Early in life Dr. Macmillan made a special study of social and economic questions. He felt that the Church with its respectability and aloofness was not touching the great problems associated with the laboring class. Such great questions as proper housing, the slum district, the providing of parks and playgrounds for children, child labor, factory inspection and proper working hours are some of the many problems which he has studied and which he believes should be grappled with by the Church. He has no illusions in regard to either the capitalists' or the laboring men. He knows both intimately and is familiar with their special weaknesses. He knows how unreasonable and tyrannical great wealth in the hands of unscrupulous men can become. He also knows the unreasonableness and the bigotry of uninformed labor organizations. Somewhere between these extremes there should be a common ground where the two can meet and co-operate in the solution of the great problems so vital to each and to the nation as a whole.

The establishment of a Chair of Practical Theology and Social Ethics is a new departure in Canada. It is somewhat significant that the honor of establishing such a chair should come to one of the newer colleges in Canada. The West, with the radical tendencies of a new country, is facing and grappling with many problems which the older and more conservative East has not yet attempted to solve. The result of the experiment—for in a measure the establishing of such a chair is an innovation and an experiment—will be watched with sympathetic interest. All men interested in good government, in the improvement of social problems, the bettering of economic and industrial conditions under which people work and live are aware that these questions are of the most vital interest to the nation. Anything which will tend to solve these problems, to lessen the friction between capital and labor, to make easier the lot of little children and to bring, in brief, more sunshine into the lives of mankind, should be welcomed and supported.

Dr. Macmillan is a recognized authority on these questions. For years his reading has been along these lines, while he has made a firsthand study of it in Canada, the United States and in Europe. He has written and lectured on the subject until he is as familiar with the various aspects and problems popularly known as sociological questions as it is possible for a man to be. If any man in Canada can make the newly-founded chair a success, the Rev. J. W. Macmillan is the man to do it.

He was born at Mount Forest, Ont., in 1868, educated at the Mount Forest High School, at the University of Toronto, where he graduated in arts in 1888, Knox College and the Union Theological Seminary, New York. Dr. Macmillan's first pastorate was in Vancouver, then followed eight years in Lindsay. From Lindsay he went to St. Andrew's Church, Winnipeg, where he spent six years, and from there to Halifax, where he has been pastor of St. Matthew's Church since 1909. It is expected that he will take up his new work in Manitoba College when the session re-opens in the fall.

Dr. Macmillan is married to a daughter of Mr. J. D. Flavell, of Lindsay, and shares with his well-known father-in-law a passion for curling, golf and outdoor sports. He is also an honorary colonel in the Militia and has been chaplain to regiments since he first donned his ministerial garb. At the present time he is on active service, being associated with the troops stationed at Halifax. It is this mingling with men and seeing the problems which confront mankind from many angles which has in a measure made Macmillan the strong individual he is. In addition, however, he is a scholar. He took the highest possible honors in his course through college, and is probably one of the widest readers and the best informed men occupying a pulpit in Canada to-day. Altogether he is a wise choice for the position he has been called upon to fill.



## Imperial Bank OF CANADA

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Reserve Fund.....\$7,000,000

This Bank issues Letters of Credit negotiable in all parts of the world. This Bank has 127 branches throughout the Dominion of Canada.

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## THE BANK OF BRITISH NORTH AMERICA

Incorporated by Royal Charter.

The Court of Directors hereby give notice that a dividend of 40 shillings per share, less Income Tax, will be paid on the 3rd April next to the Proprietors of shares registered in the Dominion of Canada, being at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum for the year ending 30th November last.

The Dividend will be paid at the rate of exchange current on the 3rd day of April next to be fixed by the Managers.  
No transfers can be made between the 20th inst. inclusive and the 1st prox. inclusive, as the books must be closed during that period.  
By Order of the Court,

JACKSON DODDS,  
Secretary.

No. 5, Gracechurch Street,  
London, E.C.

2nd March, 1915.

## THE DOMINION BANK

SIR EDMUND B. OSLER, M.P., President  
W. D. MATTHEWS, Vice-president

C. A. BOGERT, General Manager

## Trust Funds Should Be Deposited

In a Savings Account in The Dominion Bank. Such funds are safely protected, and earn interest at highest current rates.

When payments are made, particulars of each transaction may be noted on the cheque issued, which in turn becomes a receipt or voucher when cancelled by the bank.

## UNION BANK OF CANADA

Dividend No. 113

NOTICE is hereby given that a dividend at the rate of eight per cent. per annum upon the Paid-up Capital Stock of the UNION BANK OF CANADA has been declared for the current quarter, and that the same will be payable at its Banking House in the City of Winnipeg and at its branches on and after Tuesday, the 1st day of June next, to shareholders of record at the close of business on the fifteenth day of May next.

The transfer books will be closed from the 17th to the 31st of May, 1915, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board,

G. H. BALFOUR,  
General Manager.

Winnipeg, 16th April, 1915.

## THE BANK OF OTTAWA

ESTABLISHED 1854  
HEAD OFFICE: - - - - - OTTAWA, CANADA.  
Capital Paid Up.....\$4,000,000  
Reserve Fund and Undivided Profits.....\$4,378,259  
Total Assets over.....\$8,378,259

Board of Directors:  
HON. GEORGE BRYSON, President.  
SIR HENRY V. BATE, DENIS MURPHY, RUSSELL BLACKBURN, HON. SIR GEORGE H. SIR HENRY K. EGAN, PERLEY, DAVID MACLAREN, E. C. WHITNEY, GEORGE BURN, General Manager.  
D. M. FINNIE, Asst. General Manager.  
W. DUTHIE, Chief Inspector.

## ESTABLISHED 1864

Paid Up Capital.....\$7,000,000  
Reserve Fund and Undivided Profits.....\$7,568,184

THE MERCHANTS' BANK OF CANADA  
PAYS SPECIAL ATTENTION TO SAVINGS ACCOUNTS

J. C. R.

## ACTIVITY CENTER IN ALL SPEC

Little Attention was Paid Issues--War Stocks Demand

## PUBLIC INTEREST

Coppers Inclined to Weakness--Some to Sell Coppers as Hedge Against an Bull Side in Other St

(Exclusive Lensed Wire to the Journal)

New York, May 1.—Great stress in a number of specialties at the close. In the latter class of stocks, was good buying on the decline and was usually keen for the last day. Baldwin Locomotive opened on 2 1/4, 61 1/4 to 61, compared with 59 1/4 at the day. American Locomotive opened while Westinghouse gained a point. State Steel opened unchanged at 5 1/4, a fraction on the next few sales. In the opening was from 43 1/2 to 43, 43 1/2 at the close on Friday.

Coppers were inclined to weakness, losing 1/4 and Utah 1/4 on first sale. were inclined to sell copper issues against ventures on the bull side in other

New York, May 1.—The standard hardly more than incidental to the specialties in the first half hour. News was in the latter group, and such features of the railroad list as Reading were few and small. However, kept on their way rejoicing, was evidence of heavy realizing in, particularly in Westinghouse, in some current reports said the company's only one large war order amounting whereas it has received two of that Central Leather on a moderate volume advanced 2 points to 41 1/4, in response published on Friday that large orders were pending.

Virginia-Carolina Chemical was feature, the price advancing 2 1/2 to 2 1/4, rich there was an advance of 2 1/2 to 2 1/4, dictions of a resumption of dividends on basis in the comparatively near future. Lead's rise of 1 1/2 to 70 1/2 brought out increased dividend when directors met within the next two or three weeks. Steel Spring gained 4 1/2 by selling at were vague rumors that the company's share of the war business.

## INTERNATIONAL HARVESTER CO. IN HAMILTON MAY BE CLOSED

Chicago, Ill., May 1.—An official of International Harvester Co. stated that the plant has been practically closed for weeks because of poor Canadian business. "We have enough machinery on hand for most of this year's prospective crop, but it is not usual to shut down Harvester's plant, but in this instance we closed a longer period than usual. Probably plant may stay closed until the fall, when in the meantime improve our machinery. The Hamilton plant in normal around 1,800 persons.

## COOL AND SHOWERY

East to north winds; cool and showery on Sunday.  
The distribution of pressure has changed from that of the early part of the week. The barometer is now highest over North America and relatively low over the United States. The weather is overcast and cool. Dominion and rain is falling between the Dominion and the Maritime Provinces.

ROCK ISLAND DEPOSITS \$1,400,000.  
New York, May 1.—Chicago Rock Island Railway Co. has deposited \$1,400,000 National Bank to pay the principal due 4 per cent bonds of 1902.

OKLAHOMA CROP REPORT.  
Chicago, Ill., May 1.—Oklahoma crop of May 1, gives the condition of wheat 86 a month ago, and 98 a year ago, 2 is expected. Oats condition 89, a year ago 7 1/2, up 1/4.

PHILADELPHIA MARKET OPENED.  
Philadelphia, May 1.—Market opened. Storage Battery, 54 1/2 up 1/4. L 7 1/2, up 1/4.

## WHY INSPIRATION Consolidated Copy is a BUY

WRITE FOR OUR WEEKLY LETTER.

GOURLEY, MACLEOD STOCK BROKERS  
50 ST. FRANCOIS XAVIER MONTREAL  
PHONES: Main 7848, Main 80

## ILLINOIS TRACTION CO.

Dividend Notice.  
A quarterly dividend at the rate of 3% (3%) per annum on the Common Stock of Traction Company has been declared for ending April 30th, 1915, payable May 1st, 1915, to shareholders of record of May 1st, 1915. By order of the Board,

GEO. M. MA  
Champaign, Ill.  
Montreal April 29th